

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

**SECRET**

**SECURITY INFORMATION**

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**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

1. Prior to the monetary reform owners of valuable articles such as china, silver, jewelry, and carpets had consigned these to special state shops for sale on a commission basis. Immediately following the currency reform, these state shops bought the consigned articles in new lei at prices based on the official exchange rate, for example an article previously valued at 50,000 lei was bought by the shop for 137.50 new lei.
2. The State Consignment Shops which instituted this "forced sale" procedure had closed for two or three days before the monetary reform went into effect, thus depriving the owners of consigned articles of their right to withdraw their valuables. This device caused a considerable number of persons to lose what in many cases were last vestiges of personal property and to accept currency which had a much smaller purchasing power.
3. Soviet military officers, both in uniform and in civilian dress, were avid purchasers of various valuable articles from the special state shops at extremely low prices. These buyers were interested principally in furs, jewelry, pianos and carpets. [redacted]  
[redacted] Soviet personnel stationed in Rumania knew of the monetary reform for some time before it went into effect.
4. [redacted] a short time before the currency reform drivers employed by the Ministry of Interior made considerable purchases of rugs and carpets from travelling rug sellers. These purchases were made for the Ministry. [redacted]  
[redacted] the rugs were to be used in furnishing a sanatorium located

25X1

25X1

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SECRET

- 2 -



25X1

on the outskirts of Otopeni. According to rumor, however, this building is not a sanatorium but in reality is a haven for high government officials.

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